

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Andrew Harvey Barr et al.

Serial No.: 10/621,661

Filed: July 17, 2003

Docket No.: 200308575-1 (H300.212.101)

Title: PARTIALLY VOIDED ANTI-PADS

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Office Action mailed August 22, 2005. Claims 1-34 were rejected. With this Response, claims 1, 17, and 24 have been amended. Claims 7 and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 35-37 have been added. Claims 1-6 and 9-37 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-28 and 30-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Oggioni, U.S. Patent No. 6,710,258 ("Oggiani").

Applicant's submit that Oggiani fails to teach or suggest the invention of amended independent claims 1, 17, and 24. Amended independent claims 1 and 17 recite wherein the pattern of conductive material is electrically isolated. Amended independent claim 24 recites wherein the partially voided anti-pad is electrically isolated.

Oggiani discloses that rings 230b and 230e are formed by removing four arc-shaped portions of ground planes 220b and 220e. Rings 230b and 230e are connected to a remaining portion of ground planes 220b and 220e through four radial conductive segments 235b and 235e in each respective plane. Two via-holes 240 extend between ground planes 220b and 220e. Conductive segments 245c and 245d connect rings 230c and 230d, respectively to via-holes 240 and then to the reference voltage. (Col. 4, lines 40-49). Oggiani discloses that the rings are either electrically coupled to the ground plane or to a reference voltage. The rings in Oggiani are not electrically isolated.

Dependent claims 2-6, 9-16, 18-23, 25-28, and 30-34 further define patentably distinct claim 1, 17, or 24. Accordingly, these dependent claims are also believed to be allowable over the cited reference. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-6, 9-28, and 30-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn and claims 1-6, 9-28, and 30-34 be allowed.

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Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oggioni in view of Murray, U.S. Patent No. 5,844,146 ("Murray").

Dependent claim 29 further defines patentably distinct claim 24. Accordingly, Applicants submit that dependent claim 29 is also allowable over the cited references. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and claim 29 be allowed.

Added Claims

Independent claims 35-37 have been added. Independent claim 35 includes the limitations from previous independent claim 1 and dependent claim 12. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Oggiani. Claim 35 recites wherein the pattern comprises an asymmetric pattern.

Oggiani discloses that it is not necessary that the rings are completely closed around the via-hole and that the rings may be comprised of square or other polygonal shaped frames rather than cylindrical. (Col. 6, lines 6-9). Oggiani also discloses that the arrangement of the via-hole at the center of the rings ensures that no asymmetry is introduced. (Col. 5, lines 49-51). Oggiani teaches away from asymmetry and does not teach or suggest a pattern that comprises an asymmetric pattern.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 35 is not taught or suggested by the cited references. Allowance of claim 35 is respectfully requested.

Independent 36 includes the limitations from previous independent claim 1 and dependent claim 13. Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Oggiani. Claim 36 recites wherein the pattern comprises a concentric circles pattern. While Oggiani discloses single rings, Oggiani is silent with regard to the pattern comprising a concentric circles pattern.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 36 is not taught or suggested by the cited references. Allowance of claim 36 is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 37 includes the limitations from previous independent claim 1 and dependent claim 16. Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Oggiani. Claim 37 recites wherein the pattern comprises a screen pattern. While Oggiani

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uses the term “mesh” to describe the shielding structure, it is clear that the use of the term is not referring to a screen pattern. Oggiani is silent with respect to the pattern comprising a screen pattern.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that added claim 37 is not taught or suggested by the cited references. Allowance of claim 37 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-6 and 9-37 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-6 and 9-37 is respectfully requested.

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Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner for Patents to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0471 in the amount of \$650 to cover the fees as set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(h)(i).

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either David A. Plettner at Telephone No. (408) 447-3013, Facsimile No. (408) 447-0854 or Patrick G. Billig at Telephone No. (612) 573-2003, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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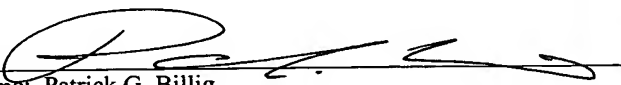
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 22 day of November, 2005.

By 
Name: Patrick G. Billig